

abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

In the Claims:

Please substitute the following claims 30, 34, 36-38 and 40 for the pending claims 30, 34, 36-38 and 40:

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30. (Amended) A kit for transvenously accessing the pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium to perform a medical procedure on the heart, the kit comprising:

a guide catheter;

an infusion guide wire coaxial with said guide catheter substantially throughout a length of said guide catheter; and

a leading guide wire coaxial with said infusion guide wire and having a diameter sufficiently small to be passed through a lumen of said infusion guide wire, said leading guide wire having a sufficient length to pass through and protrude from a distal end of said infusion guide wire, and having a distal end capable of penetrating a wall of the right atrium of the subject's heart,

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wherein said infusion guide wire and said leading guide wire both have sufficient flexibility to permit said infusion guide wire and said leading guide wire to be simultaneously passed through said guide catheter into the right atrium of the subject's heart via a transvenous route.

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34. (Amended) The kit of claim 33, wherein said infusion guide wire functions as an aspiration catheter having a lumen of sufficient diameter so that said infusion guide wire may be passed over said leading guide wire and into the pericardial space for the removal of fluid from the pericardial space to treat cardiac tamponade.

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36. (Amended) The kit of claim 35, wherein said infusion guide wire functions as an aspiration catheter having a lumen of sufficient diameter so that said infusion guide wire may be passed over said leading guide wire and into the pericardial space for the removal of fluid from the pericardial space to treat cardiac tamponade.

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37. (Amended) The kit of claim 30, wherein said leading guide wire has a diameter between 0.010 inches and 0.018 inches.

38. (Amended) The kit of claim 36, wherein said leading guide wire has a diameter of 0.014 inches.

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C6

40. (Amended) A kit for transvenously accessing the pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium to perform a medical procedure on the heart, the kit comprising:

a guide catheter having sufficient length and flexibility to be inserted into the right atrium of a subject's heart via a transvenous route;

an infusion guide wire within said guide catheter and having sufficient stiffness to traverse a patient's anatomy to be inserted into the right atrium of a subject's heart via a transvenous route;

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a hollow leading guide wire extending through said guide catheter and having a diameter sufficiently small to be passed through a lumen of said guide catheter,

wherein said leading guide wire has sufficient length to pass through and protrude from a distal end of said guide catheter, a distal end capable of penetrating a wall of the right atrium of the subject's heart, and sufficient flexibility to permit said leading guide wire to be passed through said guide catheter and into the right atrium of the subject's heart via a transvenous route.

Please add new claims 42-71 as follows:

42. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said infusion guide wire further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

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43. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said guide catheter further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

44. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said leading guide wire further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

45. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said leading guide wire is steerable to any location within the pericardium.

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46. (New) ~~The kit of claim 30, wherein said kit is adapted to perform a surgical procedure on the heart.~~

47. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said kit is adapted for placing an implantable device into the pericardium.

48. (New) The kit of claim 30, further including a locking device to fix a relative position of the leading guide wire relative to the infusion guide wire.

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49. (New) ~~The kit of claim 30, wherein said infusion guide wire and said leading guide wire jointly have sufficient pushability to penetrate into the pericardial space through a wall of a right atrium of the heart without kinking.~~

50. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said infusion guide wire has a lumen of sufficient diameter for passing a fiberoptic imaging probe into the pericardium.

51. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said guide catheter further comprises a blood pressure monitor.

52. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said guide catheter further comprises an ECG monitor.

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53. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said infusion guide wire further comprises at least one electrode.

54. (New) The kit of claim 30, wherein said leading guide wire further comprises at least one electrode.

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55. (New) A dual guide wire for transvenously accessing a pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium to perform a medical procedure on the heart comprising:

an infusion guide wire; and

a leading guide wire for insertion through the infusion guide wire and having a diameter sufficiently small to be passed through a lumen of said infusion guide wire, said leading guide wire having a sufficient length to pass through and protrude from a distal end of said infusion guide wire, and having a distal end capable of penetrating a wall of the right atrium of the subject's heart,

wherein said dual guide wire has sufficient flexibility to pass through a guide catheter into the right atrium of the subject's heart via a transvenous route and sufficient

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pushability to penetrate into the pericardial space through a wall of a right atrium of the heart without kinking.

56. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said dual guide wire has sufficient pushability to penetrate into the pericardial space through said wall of said right atrium of the heart without kinking while being aligned tangential to said wall of said right atrium.

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57. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said infusion guide wire further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

58. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said guide catheter further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

59. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said leading guide wire further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

60. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, further including a locking device to fix a relative position of the leading guide wire relative to the infusion guide wire.

61. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said infusion guide wire has a lumen of sufficient diameter for passing a fiberoptic imaging probe into the pericardium.

62. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said infusion guide wire has a lumen of sufficient diameter for aspiration of fluid from the pericardial space to treat cardiac tamponade.

63. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said infusion guide wire is coaxial with a guide catheter upon insertion of said guide catheter into the right atrium.

64. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, wherein said dual guide wire further comprises a radiopaque marker on its distal end.

65. (New) The dual guide wire of claim 55, further including a locking device to fix a relative position of the leading guide wire relative to the infusion guide wire.

66. (New) A dual guide wire for transvenously accessing a pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium to perform a surgical procedure on the heart comprising:

an infusion guide wire; and

a leading guide wire insertable into the a right atrium of the heart through said infusion guide wire and having a distal end capable of penetrating a wall of the right atrium of the heart, wherein said infusion guide wire and said leading guide wire jointly have sufficient pushability to penetrate the wall of the right atrium into the pericardial space without kinking,

wherein the dual guide wire may be used to perform a surgical procedure on the heart.

67. (New) The kit of claim 66, wherein said infusion guide wire and said leading guide wire jointly have sufficient pushability to penetrate into the pericardial space through a wall of the right atrium of the heart without kinking while being aligned tangential to said wall.

68. (New) A dual guide wire for transvenously accessing a pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium comprising:

an infusion guide wire; and

a leading guide wire insertable into the heart through said infusion guide wire,

wherein said dual guide wire has sufficient pushability to penetrate into the pericardial space through a wall of a right atrium of the heart without kinking, and has sufficient steerability to be steered to any location within the pericardium.

69. (New) A dual guide wire for transvenously accessing a pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium for aspiration of fluid from the pericardial space to treat cardiac tamponade comprising:

an infusion guide wire for aspiration of fluid from the pericardial space to treat cardiac tamponade; and

a leading guide wire insertable into the heart through said infusion guide wire and having a distal end capable of penetrating a wall of a right atrium of the heart,

wherein said dual guide wire has sufficient pushability to penetrate the wall of the right atrium into the pericardial space without kinking.

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70. (New) A dual guide wire for transvenously accessing a pericardial space between a heart and its pericardium to implant a surgical device within the heart comprising:

an infusion guide wire; and

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a leading guide wire insertable into the heart through said infusion guide wire and having a distal end capable of penetrating a wall of a right atrium of the heart, wherein said infusion guide wire and said leading guide wire jointly have sufficient pushability to penetrate the wall of the right atrium into the pericardial space without kinking,

wherein the dual guide wire is adapted for implantation of a surgical device within the heart.

71. (New) The dual guidewire of claim 70, wherein the dual guide wire is adapted for implantation of the surgical device within a coronary artery of the heart.